

Minority Business Enterprise Compliance Office

Certification Review Committee (CRC)

Minutes of the Meeting

September 17, 2008

A meeting of the Certification Review Committee (CRC) was held at the Rhode Island Department of Administration, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908 on Wednesday, September 17, 2008. The meeting was called to order at 2:11 p.m. with a quorum being declared present. Members in attendance were Charles Newton, Louise Anderson, Muraina Akinfolarin, Olayinka Oredugba, and Denise Correy. Also in attendance was Dorinda Keene, staff to the CRC.

The Minutes of the August 20, 2008 meeting were reviewed. After some discussion, a motion was made and properly seconded to approve the Minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

The Certification Review Committee reviewed recommendations of the MBE Compliance Office regarding applications submitted on behalf of the following firms:

- a) Ardem, Inc. MBE/DBE NJ**
- b) Guzman Prufer, Inc. MBE/DBE MA**
- c) Northeast Diving Services, Inc. WBE/DBE RI**

After some discussion, a motion was made and properly seconded to approve the certification of these firms in the State of Rhode Island's MBE program, as well as the DBE program, as applicable, as administered by those transportation agencies governed by 49 CFR in the industry as detailed in the write up presented by the MBE Compliance Office. Motion carried unanimously.

The Certification Review Committee reviewed recommendations of the MBE Compliance Office regarding applications submitted on behalf of the following firms:

- a) Advanced Reprographics, LLC WBE/DBE CT**
- b) Vixen Fire Protection Services, Inc. WBE/DBE MA**

After some discussion, a motion was made and properly seconded to notify these firms of the need for a hearing based upon issues of control, licensing, and/or dependency upon non-minority individuals. Motion carried unanimously.

Hearings:

Popcorn Guys Enterprises, Inc. – A hearing was conducted before the CRC regarding the application for certification as a WBE/DBE submitted on behalf of Popcorn Guys Enterprises, Inc., and was attended by the applicant, Ms. Michele Cross, as well as by George J. West, Esq., legal counsel for the applicant. After questioning by the

members of the CRC regarding issues of control and dependency upon a non-minority individual, the applicant chose to withdraw her application without prejudice.

Accurate Drilling and Blasting Corp. – A hearing was scheduled before the CRC regarding the application for certification as a WBE/DBE submitted on behalf of Accurate Drilling and Blasting Corp.

However, the applicant forgot her scheduled appointment and was not in attendance. The applicant requested, and was granted, a continuation. The MBE Compliance Office shall reschedule said hearing for a future date to be determined.

Old/New Business:

Mount Hope Builders, Inc. – A hearing for Mount Hope Builders, Inc. has been scheduled for September 24, 2008 at 2:00 p.m.

Acoustek, Inc. – The CRC Members were advised that Acoustek, Inc. had voluntarily withdrawn their certification from their home state certifying agency. Accordingly, the CRC Members were advised that the MBE Compliance Office had removed the certification of this firm in Rhode Island and the hearing previously requested for this firm has been cancelled.

The following firms, all previously certified as MBE/DBE firms in the State of Rhode Island, had allowed their certifications to lapse due to

failure to submit timely recertification applications. Subsequently, all have submitted the required information to renew their certifications. The Certification Review Committee reviewed recommendations of the MBE Compliance Office regarding said applications submitted on behalf of the following firms:

- a) C.K. Contractors, Inc. MBE/DBE RI
- b) Debnor Flooring Contractors, Inc. MBE/DBE RI
- c) Almada Electric MBE/DBE RI

After some discussion, a motion was made and properly seconded to approve the certification of these firms in the State of Rhode Island's MBE program, as well as the DBE program, as applicable, as administered by those transportation agencies governed by 49 CFR in the industry as detailed in the write up presented by the MBE Compliance Office. Motion carried unanimously.

A discussion ensued regarding scheduling two additional dates to the current CRC Meeting calendar in order to alleviate the backlog in hearings. It was agreed that interim meetings would be conducted on October 29, 2008 and December 3, 2008, in addition to the previously scheduled meetings.

There being no further issues to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 4:12 p.m. The next meeting of the Certification Review Committee shall be on Wednesday, September 24, 2008.